Gajray project at Nagpur

2661. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether land has been acquired for 'Gajray' Project at Nagpur;

(b) whether any requests have been received for more compensation from farmers whose lands are being acquired; and

(c) if so, what has been decided by Government on their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No such proposal has been received under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

राउरकेला इस्पात संयंत्र सेल का मशीनी करण

2662. **श्री गया सिंह** : क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राउरकेला इस्पात संयंत्र (सेल) के आधुनिकीकरण के संबंध में पर्यावरण विभाग द्वारा की गई आपत्ति के बारे में स्थिति क्या है; और

(ख) इस बारे में क्या अंतिम निर्णय लिया गया है ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ) : (क) और (ख) पहले दी गई पर्यावरणीय मंजूरी को अस्थगित कर दिया गया है तथा परियोजना प्राधिकारियों को निदेश दिया गया है कि वे 31 दिसम्बर, 1993 तक शर्तों का पालन करें ।

Commercialisation of Wild Life Products

2663. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether commercialisation of Wild Life products is causing extinction of rare wild life species including 'Big cass'; and

(b) if so, what are the positive action programmes Government have taken to stop this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORSTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir. Trade in products of wild animal in Foreign countries continues to pose a threat to the survival of wild species, including big cats, in India and other countries.

(b) Government of India has taken following steps to prevent extinction of rare wild life species:

(i) A network of protected areas has been created throughout the country covering the ranging grounds of almost all the important animals to conserv the endangered species of wild life.

(ii) The Government of India has totally banned the trade in products of Scheduled animals in India by law with the 1991 Amendment of Wild life (Protection) Act, 1972.

(iii) India has become a member of Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITIES) in order to exercise control over the international trade on specified wildlife articles with full cooperation of other members of CITES.

(iv) 4 Regional and 3 sub-regional offices have been established by Government of India in major trade/export outlets in India to check illegal traffic in wild animal products.